

UlsterCorps Service Summit 2013 SPEAKER BIOS

Tim Allred's career began in the non-profit sector in international development . Tim worked in Latin America to develop community-based models for poverty reduction and sustainable development. After earning his MBA and a Master of Environmental Management from Yale University, Tim spent several years as a for-profit management consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton. While with Booz Allen, Tim designed a community development model where for-profit natural resource companies partnered with a non-profit micro-enterprise development agency in South East Asia to more effectively allocate funds toward poverty reduction. Tim is also a successful entrepreneur, having co-founded and sold a thriving wine store in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Tim Allred is currently the Project Manager of the Williams Lake Project and responsible for all aspects of the project, including design, community outreach, sustainability and environmental approvals.

Gerald Benjamin was appointed as Associate Vice President for Regional Engagement and Director of the Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach (CRREO) at SUNY New Paltz in 2008. Benjamin, who joined the New Paltz faculty as an Assistant Professor of Political Science in 1968, achieved the University's highest rank in 2002 when he was appointed Distinguished Professor by the SUNY Board of Trustees. He served as Chair of the Department of Political Science, Presiding Officer of the faculty and (for twelve years beginning in 1996) Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He earned a B.A. with distinction from St. Lawrence University. His Masters (1967) and Doctoral (1970) degrees in Political Science are from Columbia University. Between 1981 and 1993 Gerald Benjamin was an elected member of the Ulster County legislature. He served in legislative leadership as both Majority Leader (1985-91) and Chairman (1991-93). In 2002 Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress, the regional planning agency, gave Dr. Benjamin its regional achievement award.

Sue Books, a professor in the Department of Secondary Education at SUNY New Paltz, teaches courses in education and poverty, comparative and international education, and teacher research. Her scholarship has focused primarily on issues of equity in U.S. schooling. She is editor of *Invisible Children in the Society and its Schools* (Erlbaum, 1998/2003/2007), author of *Poverty and Schooling in the U.S.: Contexts and Consequences* (Erlbaum, 2004), and a member of the SUNY Press Editorial Board. In recent years she has taught and conducted research in South Africa as a visiting scholar and in Iceland and Brazil as a Fulbright Scholar.

Deborah Meyer DeWan is the Executive Director of the Rondout Valley Growers Association, a 10 year old community-based not for profit organization comprised of local farmers, residents, and businesses committed to strengthening the region's farms and preserving agricultural open space for future generations. Deborah has worked throughout the Hudson Valley and Catskills assisting not-for-profits, government agencies and others with policy formation, planning and preservation projects, organizational and program development. All the while she has built a regional reputation as an effective bridge builder between diverse constituencies. Deborah has served on several nonprofit boards including Family of Woodstock, Catskill Center for Conservation and Development, and Hudsonia, and is currently a member of the Riverkeeper Advisory Board. For the past 15 years, she has been the Governor's appointed environmental representative on the Catskill Watershed Corporation board. She holds a B.A. (Poli Sci) from SUNY Stony Brook and an M.S. in Environmental Studies from Bard College.

As Ulster County's first and only County Executive, **Mike Hein** has proven to be a highly effective leader with a statewide reputation as a reformer. He has completely transformed County government, with a focus on protecting taxpayers and delivering high quality services in the most efficient manner possible. County Executive Hein works hard to ensure that Ulster County continues to be the greatest place anywhere to live, work, visit and raise a family.

Melinda Herzog is employed by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County as the Issue Leader of Family and Consumer Science and is the Project Coordinator of Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work & Play, a program aimed at fighting obesity and type 2 diabetes. She has an M.S. in Biology and Education from the University at Albany, a B.S. in Natural Resources from Cornell University and has a NYS Teaching Certificate in Biology and General Science.

Eileen Liverani is the Senior Site Director of the Kingston, NY office of UnitedHealthcare, and has worked there for over 25 years. UHC is one of the largest private employers in Ulster County, providing jobs to over 1,000 employees. She graduated from Central College in Pella, Iowa with a BA in Elementary Education, and received a Masters of Education with a focus on Corporate Learning from Jones International University. A long-time resident of the area, Eileen is married to Michael Liverani, and has two grown children, Kathryn and Michael.

New Visions Health Career Explorations is an innovative Ulster County BOCES program that enables high school seniors to make informed decisions about their career choices through direct observation of local health care professionals at work. New Visions Health students have the unique opportunity to participate in the authentic application of learning in over 40 clinical settings. We are housed in Marys Avenue Campus and supported by Health Alliance of the Hudson Valley and our community of professionals in Ulster County.

Stacey Rein is celebrating her 19th year as President of the United Way of Ulster County, and still considers it to be one of life's greatest privileges to be a part of the vibrant and charitable Ulster County community. In the first few years of her tenure, Stacey contended with the loss of IBM, whose employee and corporate donations made up @ 80% of United Way's revenues. Through the implementation of a competitive grant process based on community need; leadership of several community partnerships including the annual Day of Caring, Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, Hudson Valley 211, Free Tax Preparation for Low-Wage Workers, Ulster County Fuel Oil Donation Program, Emergency Food & Shelter Program, and HOPE's Fund; and the initiation of special events like the HITS 5K and the annual United Way Golf Tournament, United Way has been able to continue its mission to ensure that help is available to anyone in need. But none of this would be possible without partnerships with local health and human service agencies, the Ulster County business community, and generous individual donors.

Carol M. Smith, MD, MPH, was appointed Ulster County Commissioner of Health and Commissioner of Mental Health in 2012. She earned her medical degree at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and is licensed to practice in New York and New Jersey. Her diverse medical experience includes board certification in Internal Medicine with sub-specialization in Occupational Medicine and added experience in Emergency Medicine. She has completed the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Basic Curriculum in Occupational Medicine. Dr. Smith is also a Certified Medical Review Officer (MRO). Dr. Smith is member of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

Tim Sweeney with his wife Laurel own and operate Stone Ridge Wine & Spirits and Prudential Nutshell Realty with partner Tom Jackson in Stone Ridge NY. Tim is a lifelong resident of the Hudson Valley having graduated from Arlington High School in 1973. His list of community service is varied and includes past service on the Benedictine Health Foundation, President of the Ulster County Board of Realtors, President of the Ulster County Multiple Listing Service, President of the Rondout Valley Business Association, Marbletown Town Councilman, Budget Committee of Rondout Valley Central Schools, Marbletown Planning & Zoning Commission and Vestry of Christ the King Episcopal Church in Stone Ridge. Tim currently serves as a Trustee and Secretary for SUNY Ulster and is a director with the Rondout Valley Business Association, Ulster County MLS and represents the Board of Realtors as a New York State Director. Tim is a longtime supporter of the Rondout Valley Growers Association, Mohonk Preserve, the arts and education both public and private.

Ward Todd is President/CEO of the Ulster County Regional Chamber of Commerce, the region's largest business-advocacy organization with 1,200 members representing 25,000 workers. Mr. Todd is a graduate of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management at Villanova University. Prior to joining the Chamber, he was Operations Manager and Morning Program host at WKNY Radio in Kingston as well as the chief staff announcer at WRNN-TV. Mr. Todd is a former Chairman and Majority Leader of the Ulster County Legislature. He is Past President of the Kingston School Board, served on the Onteora Board of Education and was President of the Board of Directors of the Children's Annex. He currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of the Mary's Avenue Campus of HealthAlliance and is Secretary of the Board of the Ulster County Development Corporation (UCDC). He is a member of the SUNY Ulster Hall of Fame and is a Rotary International Paul Harris Award recipient.